5. Require generic nondegradation or antidegradation regulation appb ing statewide.
6. Continue with incomplete ground water regulatory programs.

Four criteria were used to evaluate these options: (1) the ability to achie\ the goal, (2) coordination with other regulatory agencies and/or progran to minimize duplication of effort, (3) consideration of economic reasonable ness of implementation, and (4) consideration of the amount of data nece sary to implement the goal.

Implementation Option

The option selected is a form of classification scheme. Ground wat< quality is classified on the basis of total dissolved solids (TDS). This diffe from classification approaches in some states in that neither physical bounc aries (e.g., aquifer systems, recharge areas, geologic strata) nor ground wi ter uses are delineated. The Colorado approach is a broad water qualil classification tied to beneficial use and defined by a water quality analys for TDS in parts per million (ppm).

There are three beneficial-use categories:

Use Category 1: Ground waters with a TDS range of less than 3000 pp] are suitable for all beneficial uses including public and private water su] plies, irrigation, livestock and wildlife watering, and commercial and ii dustrial purposes.

Use Category 2: Ground waters with a TDS value of 3,000 to 10,000 pp: are suitable, but not ideally, for most beneficial uses.

Use Category 3: Ground water with a TDS value greater than 10,0(ppm would be generally unsuitable for most beneficial uses except for son commercial and industrial uses.

If a site-specific sample of ground water is found to be in Use Category based on TDS value, then the ground water is protected to keep the TDS that range of value. Primary and secondary drinking water quality sta dards have been developed for Use Category 1, with absolute limits for ea< selected contaminant that could impair use. For Use Category 2, only pi mary standards apply. No standards apply to Use Category 3. Action f ground water in Use Category 3 is primarily to monitor, not control, wat quality.

Both ground water use and protection are under the jurisdiction of tl CWQCC. The regulatory framework was written by staff members of tl CDH, but the CWQCC has the authority to adopt and enforce the pr gram.